

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Osamu IMAICHI et al.

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<u>AMENDMENT</u>

MS - Amendment Commissioner for Patents POB 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

21 July 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action having a USPTO mailing date of 23 March 2004, the following is respectfully submitted in connection with the aboveidentified application.

In accordance with the revised format of the manner of making amendments under 37 CFR §1.121 as set forth in the Final Rule effective 30 July 2003, each section of amendment herein begins on a new page, and changes are shown by strike-through (or double brackets where appropriate) and underlining to indicate deletions and additions, respectively. A complete listing of all claims ever presented in the application is given with the current status of each claim, and only the text of all pending and withdrawn claims is presented in full, with those not being amended herein being presented in clean version.